

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 29, 2011

0810

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We write to you regarding the Commission's plans to reform the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the Intercarrier Compensation system (ICC). We agree that this current structure is unsustainable and reform is badly needed to ensure our rural areas continue to receive reasonably comparable service. We applaud your desire to streamline the USF and ICC, but as you do so, we strongly urge you to keep rural America in mind. Thoughtful reform must consider the impact of possible changes on rural communities and allow ample time for all telephone companies to adapt to new regulations.

One matter of particular importance to rural telephone carriers involves the issue of phantom traffic. Phantom traffic prevents routing information from reaching rural telephone companies, leaving them unable to bill the appropriate parties. Requiring that companies transmit and forward call detail information will help ensure that rural telephone carriers are fairly compensated for the services they provide.

USF and ICC reform is a monumental task, and as you move forward, we urge you to consider the impact on rural communities. Your attention to issues affecting these areas will ensure that as we transition toward a more sustainable system, rural America will not be left behind.

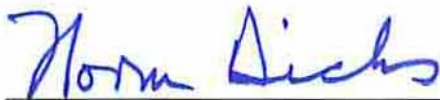
Sincerely,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



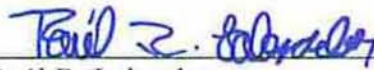
Jamie Herrera Buetler
Member of Congress



Norman D. Dicks
Member of Congress



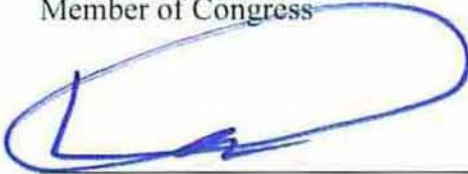
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Raúl R. Labrador
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



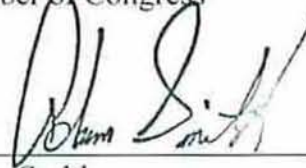
David Wu
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Michael K. Simpson
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

November 17, 2011

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Blumenauer:

Thank you very much for your letter regarding the Commission's efforts to reform and modernize the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the intercarrier compensation system (ICC). Your thoughts and concerns were a valuable contribution to our process, and were considered as part of the Commission's deliberations.

On October 27, after many years of hard work on Capitol Hill, among the FCC's Commissioners, and by Commission staff, the Commission unanimously adopted a comprehensive Order overhauling the broken and backward-looking USF and ICC systems for the Internet age. By transitioning these programs to the Connect America Fund, we are delivering on our shared national goal of universal voice and broadband service – including universal mobile voice and broadband service – and enabling increased private sector investment in the indispensable infrastructure of the 21st century: broadband. Importantly, our reforms are fiscally responsible, eliminating waste and inefficiency, using market-based mechanisms to target support where it is needed, and putting the Fund on a firm budget.

The Commission's Order will create jobs beginning in 2012, and lay the foundation for enduring job creation, economic growth, and U.S. global competitiveness for years to come.

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of the Order's "Executive Summary." Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Genachowski", is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the name "Julius Genachowski" is printed in a serif font.

Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

November 17, 2011

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
U.S. House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman DeFazio:

Thank you very much for your letter regarding the Commission's efforts to reform and modernize the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the intercarrier compensation system (ICC). Your thoughts and concerns were a valuable contribution to our process, and were considered as part of the Commission's deliberations.

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Julius Genachowski

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

November 17, 2011

The Honorable Norman D. Dicks
U.S. House of Representatives
2467 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dicks:

Thank you very much for your letters regarding the Commission's efforts to reform and modernize the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the intercarrier compensation system (ICC). Your thoughts and concerns were a valuable contribution to our process, and were considered as part of the Commission's deliberations.

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JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

November 17, 2011

The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler
U.S. House of Representatives
1130 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Herrera Beutler:

Thank you very much for your letters regarding the Commission's efforts to reform and modernize the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the intercarrier compensation system (ICC). Your thoughts and concerns were a valuable contribution to our process, and were considered as part of the Commission's deliberations.

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JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

November 17, 2011

The Honorable Raúl R. Labrador
U.S. House of Representatives
1523 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Labrador:

Thank you very much for your letters regarding the Commission's efforts to reform and modernize the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the intercarrier compensation system (ICC). Your thoughts and concerns were a valuable contribution to our process, and were considered as part of the Commission's deliberations.

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JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

November 17, 2011

The Honorable Rick Larsen
U.S. House of Representatives
108 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Larsen:

Thank you very much for your letters regarding the Commission's efforts to reform and modernize the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the intercarrier compensation system (ICC). Your thoughts and concerns were a valuable contribution to our process, and were considered as part of the Commission's deliberations.

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JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
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November 17, 2011

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
U.S. House of Representatives
2421 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers:

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November 17, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
U.S. House of Representatives
314 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schrader:

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November 17, 2011

The Honorable Adam Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2402 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

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November 17, 2011

The Honorable David Wu
U.S. House of Representatives
2338 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wu:

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